

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the subject application as amended herein is requested.

Two sheets of the replacement drawings' containing Figs. 3A and 3B are submitted with this response to overcome the Examiner's objection stated in the Office Action. Namely, Figs. 3A and 3B have been each designated by a legend "PRIOR ART" .

Claims 1-11 stand rejected as being obvious over the applicants' admitted prior art in view of Chung et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,442,124). Claim 12 stands rejected as obvious over the applicants' admitted prior art in view of Chung et al. further considered with Ito et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,643,303). Claims 13-19 stand non-elected. Claims 20-21 are new claims.

The Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Briefly, as defined in claim 1, the present application pertains to an optical pick-up apparatus for detecting signals of an optical disc, and more particularly to an optical pick-up apparatus using a holographic optical element and method of forming holographic gratings of the element, in which a three-wavelength light emitting element and a holographic optical element are used, thereby miniaturizing and slimming the apparatus, and reducing the manufacturing cost of the apparatus.

The invention is non-obvious because it is not taught in the applicant's disclosed prior art, Chung, Ito, or any combination thereof in view of the knowledge of a person of ordinary skill in the art.

Chung teaches three separate light emitting elements for generating three beams with three different wavelengths (Chung et al. fig. 1, elements 20, 30, and 40). Claim 1 of the present invention describes ' a single light emitting element having three separate light sources, each emitting one beam with wavelength different from others. Hence the present invention

involves only one lightsource module, as opposed to three. By decreasing the number of light emitting elements to just one, the present invention greatly miniaturizes and slims the apparatus, and reduces the manufacturing cost of the apparatus. Moreover the resulting apparatus is much simpler because the holographic element receives the beams from a single direction. In the prior art, a much more complex holographic element must be used that can accept the beams from several directions.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject application is now in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Attached with this response are two (2) replacement drawing sheets, which contain Figs. 3A and 3B. These drawing sheets are submitted to comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.121(d), and to bring the originally submitted drawings into conformity with the description of the application.